(b) whether it is a fact that several States have failed to supply adequate power and under-utilised the power generation facilities; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to help augment power generation and provide adequate facilities to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Various States are facing power shortage of varying degrees. The thermal Plant Load Factor of some of the State Electricity Boards is less than the National Saverage.

(c) The various steps taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commission-ing of additional capacity, improving the performance of the existing thermal power stations, reducing Transmission and distribution losses, Implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures, and implementing short gestation projects.

Jayapur-Talcher Transmission Line

1577. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when the 400 K.V. Jayapur-Talcher transmission line is likely to be completed;

(b) what was the estimated cost of the project and whether the cost increased due to price escalation; and

(c) how much amount has been spent so far on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The 400 KV Jeypore—Talcher Transmission line is scheduled for completion by June, 1988.

(b) The Project was approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.49 crores. The estimated cost of the Project is likely to increase due to various factors including price escalation.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 62.56 crores has been incurred on project upto June, 1987.

Conversion and Packing Charges

1578. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the norms for conversion and packing charges and if so, on what basis these have been revised; and

(b) whether these costs have been updated and if so, to which year the updated costs relate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Packing charges for packing levy cement in jute bags are fixed every quarter on the basis of quotations for heavy cess cement bags received from the Office of the Jute Commissioner, which are indicative of the prevailing market trends. Though certain other elements like freight, cost of the certification mark, stencilling etc., are also taken into account for fixing packing charges, these are mainly determined on the basis of the quotations of heavy cess cement bags receieved from the Office of the Jute Commisioner, for the relevant period.

HEC Agreement with Workers' Union

1579. SHR SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Heavy Engineering Corporation agrement with Workers' Union;

(b) whether the Union called to represent the workers for signing the agreement is a representative one; and

(c) whether one part of the said agreement is for retrenchment of over 6000 hands?